Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 179901 TOSEC 080019 ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:RPERITO APPROVED BY: S/S-O:RPERITO

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O 012033Z AUG 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE
WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 179901 TOSEC 080019

NODIS

WHITE HOUSE FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI ONLY, AND FOR SECRETARY ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT ADDIS ABABA 4653 SENT ACTION SECSTATE 01 AUG 77

QUOTE CONFIDENTIAL ADDIS ABABA 4653

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR MASS ET SO US

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: A) ADDIS ABABA 4629, B) ADDIS ABABA 4630

1. BY SEPTEL, I AM REPORTING MY MEETING WITH FONMIN THIS MORNING. AT APPROX 1700 THIS AFTERNOON BERHANE DERESSA, AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR, MOFA, CALLED ME TO ASK WHETHER I HAD SENT A REPORT TO WASHINGTON OF THE MEETING AS YET. WHEN I TOLD HIM IT HAD NOT GONE OUT YET, HE REPLIED "GOOD," WOULD I PLEASE HOLD IT, THEN SAID HE WAS CALLING ON INSTRUCTIONS CONFIDENTIAL

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OF HIS MINISTER. DESPITE FACT THAT HE COULD NOT TELL ME HOW LONG I SHOULD WAIT, I AGREED TO DO SO, SINCE I FELT I HAD LITTLE CHOICE BUT TO SAY I WOULD HONOR HIS REQUEST.

2. I MUST ASK THEREFORE THAT FACT I HAVE ACTUALLY SENT REPORTING TELEGRAM BE VERY CLOSELY HELD. THERE IS OBVIOUSLY SOMETHING IN WHAT WAS SAID THAT, ON SECOND THOUGHT OR

AS A RESULT OF MY REPLIES (NONE OF WHICH EXCEPT SECRETARY'S JULY 29 STATEMENT WAS NEW TO THEM), ETHIOPIANS DO NOT WANT TRANSMITTED TO DEPT AT LEAST IN FORM OR SUBSTANCE THAT WAS CONVEYED TO ME. ACCORDINGLY, ANY REFERENCE AT ALL TO THIS MORNING'S MEETING, OR AT LEAST TO SUBSTANCE, THAT COULD IN ANY WAY BE PLAYED BACK TO ETHIOPIANS, FOR EXAMPLE THROUGH THIRD COUNTRIES, COULD MAKE LIFE MOST DIFFICULT FOR US HERE. SINCE I HAD ALREADY FILLED IN BRITISH CHARGE OF SUBSTANCE OF MEETING IN ANTICIPATION OF HIS OWN MEETING WITH FONMIN, I WILL ASK HIS COOPERATION AS WELL. TIENKEN

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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To: SECRETARY WHITE HOUSE

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